VOL. LVII.-NO. 322.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JULY 19, 1890.

PARALYSIS OF THE WIRES.

FIRE DESTROYS THE GREATEST TELE-GRAPH CENTRE IN THE WORLD.

Western Union's Lofty Operating Room and Battery Room a Wreck-Saving Life and Fighting Fire 175 Feet Above the Street -A Spectacle That dammed Brondway. and a Loss That Crippled Business Like the Bilggard-Did an Electric Light Wire Start Itt-Plenty of Water, Luckily-First Use of the Fire-Gun for Life Say. ing-The Company Thought the Building was "Fireproof"-Starting Up Big Branch Offices to do the Work, and Borrowing Electricity From Out of Town.

From the day in 1872 when the Western Union Telegraph Company began business at 105 Broadway its ten-story building there has been a sort of nerve centre of the United Into its rooms ran 1,200 wires that reached, either directly or by connection with lesser centres, into every inhabited place of the globe. Once all these nerves ceased throbbing. That was on Blizzard Monday, 1888. After a few days the many lines of wires were restored to their full activity. Yesterday they were paralyzed again. A fire, born of the same electricity which gave them life, twisted and melted them, destroyed the great switchboard that directed their energies and the apparatus which made them vocal, and ruined utterly the three floors of the building in which the far-reaching tolegraph system was centred-the greatest telegraph centre of the

How the fire started no one can explain except as a guess. Two men who were in the battery room on the sixth floor a little before 7 o'clock in the morning saw a flame running slong a wire in that part of the room near the western windows. These men were James Larrisay a 70-year-old watchman and James Dowd, a battery tender, From what Dowd tells his superiors of how the fine line of fire ran along the wire, fed hungrily on the rubber and paraffine insulation, and could not be put out by water, hand grenades, or patent extinguishers. It is believed by the managing officers that the wire must have been crossed somewhere by an electric light wire. At any rate, it carried more electricity than is supplied to a telegraph wire, and it burned the insulation flercely and fast.

Telegraph wires entering the Western Union building are not sheathed with any insulating substance except inside the building. If they were the insulation at the point of contact with the electric light wire in the street-perhaps miles away-might have been set affame, and the damage would have begun and ended there. As it was, the supercharge of the current had nothing to make fire of until it reached the battery 100m at 195 Broadway. But there it had plenty of material. The battery room was one mass of wires and the little fire which Larrisey and Fowd saw consuming this particular wire's insulation soon sprend to the rubber coats of the other wires, and then the flame rose to the floor of the room above.

This was the operating department. It extended the length and width of the seventh story. There were 500 tables there, some having more than one transmitting instrument, so that in all there were 1.600 instruments. In the centre of the big room was the distributing ring table whence messages were distributed to the operators. Near the ring was the switchboard, the largest in the world. HOME TALENT SOUGHT TO CHECK THE PIEC.

Some thirty telegraphers were in the operating room. It was just in the full between the changing of the night force for the day force. Work was slack. Perhaps there were a hundred small messages in hand for out of town. The door at the Broadway and of the building at what is called the eastern staircase was open, but as yet none of the mon on the day shift had come. The door at the other end leading to the western staircase, which is used exclusively by women, was open, too, and through it had come three women who begin their work at 7 A. M. instead of 8, and thus get away earlier in the afternoon. These women were Mrs. M. K. Adams. Miss Emma Anderson. and were not get at their places when Operator A. M. Lewis smelled rubber burning. Neither he tor any of the others in the immenseroom had been warned by either Dowd or Larrisey, who were down stairs vainly fighting the fire. Soon after Lewis sniffed the unmistakable odor of burning rubber it was detected also by others. Then they saw smoke coming up through the apertures in the floor through which the wires passed from the battery room. Lowis and Night Manager Tobin and Watchgrenade, and smashed them on the floor in the flames. It was of no avail. They tried the fire

the alarm and told the cleaners on the various floors of the danger. Doyle finally reached the street, and from the open box at the corner sont out the signat.

Several other people learned of the fire just

Sent out the signal.

Peveral other people learned of the fire just about at this time and sent out alarnes. F. J. Dougherty, the night man in the American Di-tries Messenger collected the first floor of the Western enton building, cent out one; Messenger Boy 1.18. Dennis Gunn, and Messenger Boy 1.27 Timothy McCarthy, of the Peystreet office, scurred to Broadway and Maid, a lane, and Gunn pulled the local there; A. C. Wiegs, shipping clork at 16 Cordinant street, ran to the engine house at Fulton and Church streets and it is said that two or three policementalsoused the signal boxes, any way, it was 7.07 A. M. when the first alarne was sounded, and very promptly there were engines at the hydrants near by.

While Povic, the messenger low sens by might Manager Tolan on the most important errand he had ever hat, was making instituted the three women were making up their minus to get out of the operating room. The women went down their staircase and right, though the smoke that blew into it from the battery room was almost slifting. Most of the men went down the eastern staircase safely. Five, however, who linguaged to save some records, found that the fire had recorded out to the staircase, so that they could not go down the same that a same safely. They, however, who linguaged to save some records, found that the fire had recorded out to the staircase, so that they could not go down that way, the operating room meanwhile had become a long field of flame, the tables being near each other and each being above lessed the tattery room was a place of even flerger fire. It was smoking in chouds and the heated acids gave off suffocating ras.

FIVE MEN IN A THAP.

The five belated men feit that they were framed. They were it, it liathe no operator; fames Robinson, city live cheir Faul Sheet and who city had been so shown and live cheir faul Sheet and who city and whilm H. Mathews and fault of Flynn, both elers. Showly all except faithous crawled on the floor of the corrating from more than white which they crowled them are remained on a forsyther and there they crowled them are considered in the followed. The people on the balcony loaded down on the roof of the locked to it. I sung helly fastered the large start is a favor shutter on a window of the left was the halter and then the other followed. It was risky that in this war Flynn and Matthews saved the measurement of the left was proparing to lower one of the church for the left was proparing to lower one of the church for the was proparing to lower one of the church for the was proparing to lower one of the church for the left was proparing to lower one of the church was proparing to lower one of the church for the was proparing to lower one of the church for the was proparing to lower one of the church for the was proparing to lower one of the church for the was proparing to lower one of the church for the was proparing to lower one of the church for the was proparing to lower one of the church for the proparing to lower one of the church for the was proparing to lower one of the church for the proparing to lower one of the church for the was proparing to lower one of the church for the proparing to lower one of the church for the proparing to lower one of the church for the proparing to lower one of the church for the was proparing to lower one of the church for the proparing to lower one of the church for the proparing to lower one of the church for the was proparing to lower one of the church for the proparing to the proparing to lower one o FIVE MEN IN A THAP.

themselves and wait for the firemen, who hall got a indier up on the roof of 201 breadway.

The firemen stack the adder up toward the two men and they were helped down.

Eathbone had lost the party he started with from the operating room. He managed to find another window, and sticking his head out or breath he saw that his only chance of escape was to swing out on to the iron railings outside the building which support wires emering on the sixth floor along the north side. He leaned out, caught one of the iron rods, and got a footing on some narrow planks that just chanced to be on this series of rods. This support for the wires looks from far down in the street like a secure iron weaffold hung up there along the building's side, but to a mn upon it it doesn't look secure. Bathbone worked his way around to the corner when on the roof of the building 8 bey street were some firemen. They threw him a rope. He fastened it to a rod and then slid down his only huri being skinned hands.

NINE REFUGEES ON A LOTTY PERCH. NINE REPUGEES ON A LOTTY PERCH.

Away up on the roof of the eighth story, on the north side of the building, were a group of women and men gesticulating frantically and shouting, though nobody below could hear their cries. They were workers in the restaur-

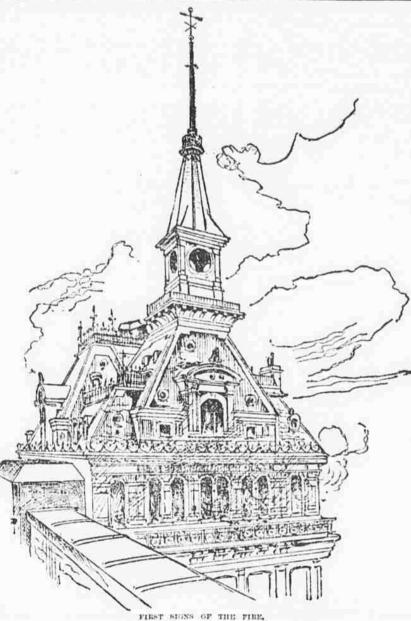
themselves and wait for the firemen, who had got a indder up on the roof of 191 Freadway.

The firemen stuck the indider or toward the two men and they were helped down.

Eathbone had lost the party he started with from the operating room. He managed to find another window, and stleking his head out, or the roof realings outside the building which support wires entering on the sixth hoof along the north side. He leaned out, cannot not the iron rods, and got a food to be on this series of rods. This support for the wires looks from far down in the street like

through to the skin to keep them from catching fire.

Another escape was made to the roof of 3 Dey street. The fron roof supports for whreshot the battery room, which begin on the north side and by which hathbone, the operator, get away, also run around on the rear of the building. Ferched on them the fluemen of i Truck saw two colored women and one white man, names unknown, but all employees in the resinurant. The firemen had got a laider on the Dey street roof by this time, and they raised it to a place whence they reached out and grabbed, first, a woman, then another, and then the man. One of the women had got out of bed only a moment before the



ant and laundry. Messenger Boy Doyle, who yelled fire at the negro cleaners as he harried down to send an alarm, was the prime came of their acting out on the narrow toof of the eighth story. One of the negroes who beard loyle's cry ran up steirs and told latrick Kelly, a boy employed in the restaurant, Kelly ran down to the operating room and hethed in the last efforts made by the Western Union employees to quench, the blaze, and then ran up stairs to check the people there of the danger. They were on the minth floor. This is part of the mansari roof. The rooms there are used some for records and some for the bedrooms of the restaurant servants. Beddes Kelly, there were eight rersons there. They were Sarnh Deiney, Annie Hogan, Annie Slautery, Ellen Keating, Mary Kearing, and Hannah Coughin. George Smith, and James Shiels. They would not believe young Kelly at first, but soon they saw flames come up on the Ley street side, and then they became thoroughly scarcel.



stringuishers, but they were useless also.

Next they get the fire hose, and, aided by others, tried to throw water on the growing fire. Some of the hose pipes were so old that the water burst them.

All this time the others in the room thought that the fire would be of little consequence. The women stood by and encouraged the amateur fire fighters in their work.

FIREMEN SUMMONED AT LAST.

Prety soon, though, they all saw that their effects were not sufficient, and then Tobin ordered Messenger Martin Boyle to hurry down stars and have an alarm sent out. Boyle holf tumbled down the winding starcase that runs from the seventic floor to the fifth, and then to jump down, when from many throats there is the straighter flights that go down the rest of the building. He yelled Fires' at every landing, and his voice was the first that raised the alarm and told the cleaners on the various.

A short with the smoke and life were too much for the much for the growing and in the sevent of the smoke and line were too much for the smoke and life were too much for them, and hey retroat do they were too much for them, and hey retroated to they committely have detected they windows which look out on the sarrow roof of the clight story running along the north side of the battery room and the operating department on the sixth and seventh floors, and it is expected by the sarrow and the sixth and seventh floor became filled with flame, and threatening she is one up a long side the iron railing of the roof backeny. One woman went to the railing and, leaving over, seemed as if about to jump down, when from many throats there canned hours or the room of the roof backeny. What a minute."

Watt the givent to the stairs the smoke and line which is smoken and low they windows which look out on the sarrow running along the north side of the roof along the single out there, and, peerfor the other own and the other ow WHECK OF THE OPERATING ROOM.

A SHOT WITH THE LIPE GUN. A SHOT WITH THE LIFE GUN.

Fitteen Truck, which had responded to the second marm, reached the front of the building at I be, and Acting Foreman Patrick O'Brien reported to acting Foreman Patrick O'Brien reported to acting Chief Cooney.

"See those folks up those on that baleony?" erled Cooney, is inting up. O'Brien ran his force up to the rool of the Foreythe building, with a lot of ladders. The roof was scarcely half way it, to the baleony, but a 35-foot ladder cached to within elimbing distance of the long windows of the seventh floor. O'Brien couldn't get into the windows, because the rooms were full of flames and smoke, his notion was to get in and go up by the smire to the baleony and let roces down. As that could not be done, he can't two men up the ladder with scaling ladders to try an outside climb. Those men carried ropes with them. Before they roached the top of the ladder flames broke far out of the windows above them and they were driven back.

There was one resource left—the life gun.

There was one resource loft—the life gun. The department has had life guns these two years, but his never had a chance to use them. The gun is a short Hemington carbine, earrying a ti-caubre blank cartridge containing 77 grains of powder. The stock of the gun is solid steel, made thus heavy to help counteract the heavy recoil. The barel is 12 inches long. The projectile is not a builded life in side the heavy recoil. The barel is 12 inches long. The projectile is not a builded life in line ide the heavy recoil. The part is 10 inches long, with a solid conical point, and fits over the muzzle and barrel, A slender line 500 feet in longth is fastened to this projectile. The line is coiled in a tin tub, from which it renders freely. The life gun will carry its projectio 100 feet meant.

() Brien almed well above the balcony seventy feet above him and fired. The projectile struck acamst the side of the building and fell down on the balcony. Two of the women caucht the light line, about the thickness of an ordinary choicils hime, and began handing my vigorously. There was a great cleer from below. The firemen on Forsythe e roof had ited a life line to the end they held. The people on the balcony harded up this line and a heavier one which the men of 15 fastened to it. To ung helly fastened its heavy line to a post between the wown-to-se line and a heavier one which the men of 15 fastened to it. To the west end of the long value and they had a heavier one which the men of 15 fastened to it. To the west end of the long was been and they for our below the first translation and the leake on which he steed to the leake on which he steed to the leake and they had a large seighty feet, and he chang there with one hand, while with the other he was preparing to lower one of the women.

nlarm got to her. By the time the firemen got her to the roof below she was half naked.

alarm got to her. By the time the firemen got her to the roof below she was half naked.

THE NEW SIGNAL CODE WORKS SMOOTHLY.
For the first time the new fourth alarm signal was sent out. The first alarm brought Engines 6, 4, and 29, and Tucks I and 10, and the Chiefs of Itattalions I and 2. As soon as they get to work the driver of Engine 4, from Liberty street, put his train to a fuel wagon and supplied the engines with more coal. Meanwhile, in response to an alarm from box 35 at broadway and Maiden lane. Engines 32, 7, 10, and 12, with Truck 15 and the Chiefs of the Third Battalion, came to the fire. The driver of Engine 32, from John street, at once fell to his prescribed duty of carrying around the coal wagon. At the same time and without any special order. Engines 2, 31, and 27, with Trucks 8 and 9 and the Chiefs of Battalions 6 and 7 held themselves ready at their stations to attend any lire in the now uncovered districts. A little later a third alarm was forwarded from box 35. To this there came Engines 31, 9, 27, and 29, with Truck 8, and the Chief of the Fifth Battalion. Upon the ringing of the third alarm Engine 33, up on Great Jones street, moved, according to schedule, to Engine 7's house in Chambers street, and Truck 5, from Charles street, went to the quarters of Truck 1, in Chambers street. And then the fourth alarm was sent in. It was rung from hox 54, at Nassau and Beckman streets. Engines 18, 17, 30, 33, 24, and 25, the last from up on Fifth street, answered if, together with Truck 29, from Mercer street, and the Chief of the Fourth Pattalion. Through this same signal Engine 18, from Mercer street, and the Chief of the Fourth Pattalion. Through this same signal Engine 18, from Mercer street, and truck 18, from Mercer street, and the Chief of the house of Engine 55, on Emstreet, and Truck 18, from Mercer street, and the Chief of the Fourth Pattalion.

The various alarms brought a big force of

DELUGING THE TEN-STORY BUILDING. The various alarms brought a big force of policemen whom Inspector Steers directed. He closed Broadway from above Futton street to below Cortlandt, and neither cars nor wagens went through there from shortly after 7 A. M. until 10 o'clock. Hundreds of people con-



BEMAINS OF THE BATTERY BOOM.

rived to get through the lines on pleas that they belonged in the buildings there. But so many lingered and hapedod the firemen that Inspector Steers ordered them driven away. Nevertheless, thousands saw the fire. The Aster Holess, thousands saw the fire. The Aster Holess and the office buildings were filled with spectators at their windows, and streets near by were ammed. Three upper stories of the big structure were enveloped in flame. Firemen on adjacent roofs were throwing water up at the windows, but not in many cases getting higher than the sixth story. A stand pipe was set up on Brondway, its lengths extended to their furthest, and its nozzle, pointing at an ancie, discharging a ceaseless stream at the seventh and eighth stories. By and by the firemen got longths of hose hauled up on the Brondway front, and water was played in huge streams on the inful floor. I pies were run up through the interior, and that they and the others threw ent immense quantities of Croton was apparent to every one. The water came out in torients from the main entrance, and every now and then, from a brokentwindow or a thole in the slate of the manesard roof, a wicked larget of flame would be followed by a quenching gush of water.

There were times when the spectacle of this ten-storied building, with its tower 2% less tabove the street was prant with smoke and fire. At last when the blaze caught the tower and thouse the wood harm out except the destinction of the famous midday time ball and the loss of that menter for so many watches.

By 10 o'clock the firemen had their foe where they wanted it. More than one of the fighters said that only the increased water supply made possible by the new acceduct craysoited

the almost complete ruin of the building. Had the fire occurred a week age they thick they could but have stayed within the rooms where, as it was, they were able to remain and to do so much, it was noon before the last blaze was out. But water was thrown on some parts of the building for nearly an hour lenger. All the afternoon the building was like a horse meen which a series of heavily laden clouds had ourst. The upper floors were knee deep, ruibbish having been suept to the doors, where it dammed the water in. But a squad of barelegged messenger boys went about with the floomen laterant broke the barriers and had great sport sweeping and mopping the flood away. They made every flight of stairs a cataract, and the only men going through the building who did not get wet feet were the wearers of ruiber boots. Besides, water came through the ceilings and soaked every room from basement up. Not even lay Gould's office was spared, and it was as no essary to carry an umbrolia in there as anywhore else.

The official directory of the building showed these occupants:

these occupants: Basement-Western Union receiving and delivery First Floor-Treasurer Western Union Telegraph Comrisk, 1907— Frensurer Western Union Telegraph Company, Phonits Haustanee Company,
Second Floor—Lay Gould Walash, St. Louis and Pacific Railroad Company, Texas and Pacific Railroad Company, et Louis, Iron Menutain and Southern Railroad, Grant Railroad, International and Great Northern Railroad, Gold and Stock Feierraph Company, Iron Mountain Car Trust.

Third Floor—Executive offices Western Union. Journal of the Descripts. legraph.

5 Floor-Dillon & Swayne, Electrician's office, lamblet, Fune Service, Brown & Wells, Super-int First Division Western Union.

Floor-Cable Department Western Union.

intendent First Division Western Union.

After Flore-Table Department Western Union.

After Flore-Table Department Western Union.

After Flore-Table Department rooms.

Saventh Flore-Lieneral operating rooms.

Kighth Flore-Associated Frees. Bookkeeping Department Western Union, Inneh room.

Ninth Flore-Kitchen and badrooms for help.

Tenth Flore-Storerooms for despatches. Ac.

A COMPLETE WRECE ON THREE PLOORS,

A conflicts where on Thire's thoors,

A conflicts where on Thire's thoors,

Above the ninth floor there is a tenth, though it is smaller'sin area, being under the peak of the mansard roef. It is used for storage. This tenth and the ninth floor were damaged only by water, and the same may be said also of the lower five stories and the basement. The destruction by fire was confined to the eighth floor, where were the Associated bress effices; the seventh, where was the operating room, and the sixth, which was the battery floor. The operating room was stripped of everything except the walls, the ceiling, and the floor. All the instruments, the tables, the windows, and the records kept there were destroyed. The brass and iron of the appearatus were melted into masses with the glass partitions of the tables stuck in curious shapes about them so that the floor seemed strows with bits of conglomerate rock. It will take two months to refit this room. In the battery quarrers everything was made useless. The dynamos which supply the current for all except a few local sounders were in the ceilar, so that they are uninjured. The pneumatic tubes, except those going up stairs, were unhur. The engines are all right, but the valves in the main building were destroyed. This will delay local delivery by tube for several days.

TEMORABLY OPERATING ROOMS.

delivery by tube for several days.

TEMTORARY OFERATING ROOMS.

Gen. Eckert and his assistants. Mr. Humstone. Mr. Somerville. Mr. Brown. and Mr. Tinker, got to the building about? A. M., and directly began to provide temporary ways and means of carrying on business. The blizzard knocked out business worse than the fire, but when the blizzard was over all that had to be done was to remar wires. The damage by the fire was centred in one spot, but it will cause more trouble than the blizzard, for a great deal of machinery was destroyed, some of it very delicate and of a nature that It will take time to replace. The building of the switchboard will take a longer time than the stringing of many miles of wire. But Gen. Eckert thinks that by Monday the temporary service will be so complete that it will be as good as the regular service at 125 Broadway. He but men to work at 415 Broadway yesterday at noon to make a dynamo station for the other offices, and also to do Western business. He also atranged the following division of the service for the time beling:

At the depot of the "entral Rairoad of New Jersey, Commantiaw, Southern business. At the depot of the Pennsylvana Rairoad in Jewey City. Southern business and the Associated Frees. At the Eris Rairoad Jersey City depot, the business of all points on the Eris road.

At the Morris and Ersex depot, Hoboken, the business. TEMPORARY OPERATING ROOMS.

road.

At the Morris and Essex depot, Hoboken, the husiness
of the (lacewon the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Rahmond.

At 125th street and North River, all the business of the cities on the New York Central and Hudson Siver Rahmond. At Weebawken, all the business of the phices on the West Phote Rahmond.

At the cable house, North River and Fifty-fifth street, Southern business. At the Grand Central Station, Eastern husiness. rn business.
At Twenty-third street and lifth avenue, Eastern business. At 10 Broad Street, hastern and Western

A force of 750 operators was distributed at these points. Linemen from Boston, Philathese points. Linemen from Beston, Phila-delphia and other places were summoned to make connections. Usually the Western Union handles an average of 112,000 messages a day. Vesterday, of course, this was not done, but



WHERE THEY CAUGHT THE ROPE. to-day they expect to be able to take nearly that much business and by Monday have no trouble with it.

THE WESTELN UNION'S LOSSES,

the control of the co

Prade, Speculation, News, Pleasure, Att Hampered for a Time.

What business the Western Union people did resterday in this city was mostly through the larger branch offices, which were used temporarlly as distributing centres. These were at the various offices and railroad denots in Hoboken, Jersey City, and Williamsburgh, and at Twenty-third street and Broadway, 16 Broad street, Fifty-fifth street and the North River. and 125th street in the city. At the office at Twenty-third street and Broadway connection was soon established directly with Buffale, and thus with the West. Ten operators were sent up at once to this office to take charge of the business. In the afternoon, at the Twentythird street office. Eeston and New England wires were put into operation, and thirty more operators were sent up there to rush matters Superintendent Eurton, at the Twenty-third

"We are running along finely here now, though we are taking messages, of course, subject to delay. Messages for Boston and Buifalo are sent up here by messengers from down town."

At the branch office at 15 Broad street the few wires there running directly out of the city were utilized to their full enpacity, and arrangements were making to do as large an outside business as was done at Twenty-third street. The Frond street office did a tremendous messenger business. Every messenger boy who could be pressed into the service was there. Eight through wires and the cable wires were working last night. Almost no local business was taken at any of the branch Fifty operators were sent to the company's

office in the Fennsylvania Railroad building in Jersey City at 10 o'clock. There was accommodation there for only ten. Western and Southere wires were cut in atome, and messages that had accumulated in this city were sent to Jersey City by messenger boys and despatched as quickly as possible. The railroad company furnished a roan on the second floor of the building and ten more men were put to work there. A lot of rough boards were made into a table in the cable house at the foot of Grand street and flive more men were soon at work there. The other twenty-flive men were distributed about at the various railroad stations in the city and in Hoboken. A small army of messenger boys carried messages back and lotth from this city all day. There was more work than could be handled satisfactorily, but Manager Berthold said he was doing better than he had expected. There was considerable trouble with the wires, but on an average twenty to the West and South were kept in good condition all day.

At the new Western Union headquarters on the top floor of No. 415 Broadway not a message had been sent up to the clock hast night. The office looked remarkably like the Western I nion ofhee at Johnstown at the time of the big flood. At haif a dozen tables—divided into four parts by unputned plus boards crossing each other at right angles—operators were tecking away testing the newly-arranged instruments. The only light in the room was afforded by a few tailow candles. Were Chief Jones was shouting orders, and a dozen campenters were sawing boards. Dost and dirt were over everything. In one corner a few messenger boys were huddled up asleen.

A very large business, of course, was done by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, at 18 Cortiandt street. Most of the long press renorts of the fire and the damage to business in the city were stoud to the city by this telephone. The foundary were the company and avery large business, of course was done by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company at 18 Cortiandt street. Most of office in the Fennsylvania Railroad building in Jersey City at 10 o'clock. There was accom-

tra telegraphers at work in its city oilices, and was doing its regular business and about half as much again in addition. BUSINESS AND THE EXCHANGES

Business and the Exchanges.

It would not be true to say that the damage to the Western Union wires yesterday amountal to a practical stoppage of business with other cities. It is true, though, that the business of the city with other cities was very greatly hampered, and that there has been nothing like it since the blizzard. Though there are many wires running from the city that the Western Union Company does not control, and thoughthe Western Union people got many of their own wires quickly into operation, still, during most of the day the telegraphic service of the city was at a pretty low ebb. In the first place, almost all the leased wires were rendered useess. This had the effect of cutting off orders from out-of-town customers. The Stock Lachangs suffered least of all, because it didn't want anybody's quo'astions. The brockers always want orders, but don't always get them in midsummer, lire or no file. Though the transmitting rooms of the Gold and Stock Telegraph Company were burned out, yet the "tickers" of the Commercial Telegraph News were working, and brok-

The Produce Exchange, which does directly and indirectly almost the largest telegraphic business of any concern in the city, of course was crippled very much by the fire. There was very little business, Superintendent Howe told 8 N. van that the description control

business of any concern in the city, of course was crippied very much by the fire. There was crippied very much by the fire. There was very little business. Superintendent Howe told a Sun man that the telegraphic contracts of the Exchange were wholly with the Western Union Company, and that of sixty circuits in the company's office in the Produce Exchange building not one was in operation. The Produce Exchange of the Exchange of the Exchange stiller. All such messages coming through the Western Union main office. The Lordan editions from St. Louis and all the other Western cities was serious. The little trading that was done on the Exchange was done between the members themselves in a spirit of "Let's buy and sell, whatever happens."

The members of the tonsolidated Exchange seemed to think that the lire had injured them a good deal. Whatever motalions they received from the West in mining and other stocks had to dribble along over the Postal Telegraph wires. There was more local business on the Consolidated Exchange yesterday, however, than on the day before.

Superintendent Powers of the Cotton Exchange said that it was lucky that the fire came just at the time of year it did, for this was just the period when the centon business was duliest. As it was the Exchange had almost no communication with the bouth. The little there was came by the Fostal Telegraphe communication with the Eventual. The Exchanges cables came by the town. The little there was came by the Fostal Telegraphe communication with the bouth. The little there was came by the Fostal Telegraph. The lower so had so arrived all right.

The little there was came by the Fostal Telegraphe communication with the bouth. The little there was came by the Fostal relation.

The communication with the bouth and most no communication with the bouth and most no communication with the bouth. The little there was came by the Fostal Telegraph.

The little there was came by the Fostal Telegraph.

The little there was came by the Fostal Telegraph.

LIKE THE BLIZZARD IN ITS EFFECIS. STREET FIGHT IN TESCUMBLA, ALA. Judge Streets, Mayor and Probate Judge

killed, and Two Others Wounded, SHEFFIEED, Ala., July 18.- For some months there has been trouble brewing in Tascumbia. and it is surprising to many that the rumors prevalent have not resulted in a tracedy ere this. Gossip, ever rouly to invade domestic life, has linked in unhallowed intimacy the names of Judge John Steele, Projecte Judge of this (Colbut) county, with that of Mrs. W. R. Challen, the wife of a merchant of Tascumbia. On Thursday evening when Mat Steele, a young son of Judge Steele, met Mrs. Challen on the street and he denounced her in bliter terms, calling her names too vile for print. Mrs. Challen reported the matter to her husband and to her brother. Mr. John Goodwin, and the two men sought young teele to punish him, but failed to find him. A large crowd was on the street last night following the men so as to be witnesses of the tracedy, which they knew must follow the meeting of the principals.

This morning the parties all came down town armed, with the exception of Judge Steele. They met at the drug store of Abernathy & Craig, and after a few words were passed the firing began. The first shot was fired by the Hon, John Steele, who is Mayor of the city, and who felt it to be his duty to start the show. He fired at John Goodwin, but the ball missed and struck Tracy Abernathy in the right arm, shivering the bone from near the elbow to the wrist. This misdirected shot was answered by one flom Goodwin, which struck Mayor Steele in the eye, entering the brain and producing instant death. Some reports say that these two shots were fired simultan-

At this juncture Mr. Challen, who had been in the rear of the room, either outside or behind the prescription case, rushed in while from the opposite side of the street came Tom Steele, another son of Judge Steele armed with a gun. By this time the firing was fast and furious, and only ceased upon the interference of the Sheriff. Then it was found that Tom Goodwin had fallen with a load of shot in his neck, shoulder, and arm. Tom Steele was shot in the calf of the leg, but it is only a slight wound. It is feared that the rioting will reopen to-night.

CALLED TILLMAN A LIAR.

Robert E. Lec's Coustn Resents an Imputation Upon His Veracity.

Columnia, July 18.-At the political meeting at Marion yesterday the farmers' candidate was told by a reporter that he was an "in-fernal Har." Capt, Tillman at every meeting abuses the Charleston News and Courier. Yesterday, after attacking the paper for some time, he asked the audience to compare the News and Courier's reports with the actual proceedings as they observed them, and notice the misrepre-entation by the newspaper. Shirley C. Hughson, acousin of Gen, R. E. Lee, and a correspondent of the News and Courier. sprang to his feet, exclaiming:

"Capt. Tillman, if you mean to say, sir, that I have over misrepresented you, you are an infernal liar, and the truth is not in you."

The two men stood glaring at each other, and the audience began to sway with excitement. A chorus of voices shouled. "Fut him off the stand: Fut him off the stand: But there was a rush for the piatform. Gen. Earle, u.e., Bonham, and other friends of Hughsen who were on the platform advanced and placed themselves at his side, while a score or more anti-Tiliman men crowded on to the stage with open knives, pixiols, and other weapons.

Three or four policemen with drawn clubs grasped the railing of the platform and started toward Hughson, who stood with one hand on his hip pocket and defied them to touch him. He was surrounded by friends, and the policemen were forced back to the ground, and a conflict was averted. the audience began to sway with excitement,

men were forced back to the ground, and a conflict was averted.

Tillman left the meeting soon after without replying to Hughson's charge. He expressed the opinion that the straight-out Democrats would have him assassinated before the end of the campaign. would have hir the campaign.

BABY M'KEE'S MOTHER FAINTED. A Runaway Horse Smashed Things and

CAPE May, July 18,-As the Presidential carriage, containing Mrs. Harrison, Mrs. McKee, and Baby McKee, was passing the corner of to John C. Scott a part of the lot numbered 4 Washington and Decatur streets last night a lad in a dog eart whipped up his horse and attempted to case the Harrison carriage. The price being \$21.783. At the same time another boy lost control of the horse, which gave a deed was recorded which transferred the same dashed up the street at a gallop.

As the Harrison carringe approached Decatur-street the runaway horse dashed ahead and

The storm centre that was in the take regions on Thursday without apparent energy saddenly revived and passed over the New England States to the ocean, allowing the high pressure, with cooler weather which was in Minnesota, to move rapidly into the lakeregions, and drive the cooler weather, by a brick northwest wind, into this section. The temperature in this city disapped from "" on the previous afternous to 68s at "A. M. pesterday and "" at the highest point. The coolness was more preceptible on account or the dryness. Humbilty oil from "" or cent in the vary morning, and there was a brevze of 14 to 15 unless an bour from the outhwest. The high area extended over the greater part of the country east of the Musinspip year.

PRICE TWO CENTS. INVESTING IN REAL ESTATE.

THE PEVER OF SPECULATION STRIKES THE LADIES OF THE WHITE HOUSE,

Starting a New Washington Saburb with the Romantic Name of Glen Eche Heights-The President's Wife, Daughter, Slater-in-Law, Typeweiter, and Pris vate Secretary Invest-Property Valued at \$21,733 Transferred to Mrs. Harrison for the Consideration of One Dollar.

WASHINGTON, July 18.-The women members the Presidential family have gone into the cal ostate business again, and this time on an extensive scale. Following close upon the developments connected with the acceptance of a deed to the cape May Point cottage and the lease of another at Cresson Springs comes a most entertaining account of a new speculation in the suburbs of Washington. Mrs. Harrison, her daughter, Mrs. McKee; her sister, Mrs. Dommick; her father, Dr. Scott; Elliah W. Halford, the private Secretary of the President; William H. (rook, one of the clerks at the White House, and Miss Sanger, the President's typewriter, are all interested in the new deal and although there are no facts going to show that any of them received something for nothing, the circumstances of the case exhibit them as a very thrifty set. A short time ago a real estate syndicate was

formed by two brothers named Baitzley, both residents of Washington, and well and favorably known in business and social circles. One of them was formerly the private secretary of Senator Shorman, and both are men of good standing. They and their partners purchased a large tract of land about six miles from Washington, on what is known as the Conduit ond, under which are the pipes that carry water from the great falls of the Potomac to Washington. The property lies along the north shore of the Potomae River, where the scenery is most picturesque. The land was divided into building lots, and has been on the market for some time. Recently the Messrs, Baltzley completed the erection of a very handsome and attractive villa on the bluffs overlooking the Potomac. which they named Glen Echo Heights. It is the ultimate purpose of the company to construct a mammoth and costly hotel, of which the building already completed is to be the annex. It is contemplated to extend the electric railroad, now running from Georgetown to Tenallytown, out to Glen Echo Heights, in or-

der to give citizens easy facilities for visiting the new resort. The Conduit road is one of the most popular drives about Washington and leads to Cabin John Bridge, the famous structure which boasts of the longest single span arch in the world. This bridge was erected under the supervision of Gen. Meigs when Jefferson Davis was Secretary of War. The great arch is a most popular place for sightseers and pienic parties. the scenery and landscape all about being beautiful and romantic. Glen Echo Heights is two miles nearer Washington than Cabin John Bridge, and the promoters intended to make it the fa-bionable resort where picals and dinner parties can be afforded desirable entertainment. It is also intended to dispose of the numerous building lots to persons destrous of creeting cottages for summer living. Thus far the members of the President's private and official family have been the most enger purchasers.
Gien Echo Reights is situated in Montgom

ery county. Md., being just outside of the District lines. The Washington Post this morning contains a despatch from Rockville, the county seat of Montgomery County, which gives the following description of certain deeds that have been recorded with the officials there: The last deed was recorded on Wednesday in the name of Miss Alice B. sanger, the President's typewriter. transfer is for lot 7 in block 14, and the consideration \$1.500. On July 7 a number of deeds were filed, among them one in the name of Caroline Scott Harrrison. the President's wife. Another deed was sudden lurch, struck an electric light pole, and | property from Mr. Scott to Mrs. Caroline Scott Harrison, the President's wife. Mr. John W. Scott, who bought the property from Mr. barely missed overturning the White House family vehicle. An instant later the runaway horse plunged upon the pavement in iront of Kennedy's pharmacy, breaking an iron awning post and the glass of a big show window. The horse was thrown to the ground, where it lay kicking and bleeding. At the sight of the blood Mrs. McKee fainted. There was a rush of pedestrians to give assistance, but before service was necessary Mrs. McKee railied, and the coachman had whipped up his norses and turned their heads toward the cottage at the Foint.

The Weather.

The storm centre that was in the lake regions on Thursday without apparent energy suddenly revived and passed over the New England states to the ocean, allowing the high pressure, with color weather which was in Minnesota, to move rapidly into the lakeregions, in Minnesota, to move rapidly into the lakeregions, and Minnesota, to move rapidly into the lakeregions.